

2015-R-06

**Affirmation of Support for Interim Study Bill**

**Sponsors:** Kaitlyn Wernik  
Hannah Hardcastle  
Cody Howell  
Lacey Chapman

Yes 8 No 3 Abs 5

Date: March 5, 2015

**Vote Necessary:** Majority

**Intent:** To express the support of the Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) for the passage of an Interim Study Bill during the 64th Montana Legislative Session regarding how institutions in the state of Montana, including but not limited to the Montana University System respond to sexual assault;

**Whereas,** according to the 2014 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, Montana State University reported 13 accounts of forcible sex offences as well as 22 accounts of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; and,

**Whereas,** there is a need for the State of Montana to reevaluate how all institutions within the state of Montana respond to sexual assault. These measures include but are not limited to, implementing degrees of sex crimes in criminal prosecutions, definitions of consent, resolving jurisdictional issues between law enforcement and universities, studying jurisdiction and response on Montana Indian reservations, and encouraging prevention as a primary strategy; and,

**Whereas,** ASMSU encourages reflection and evaluation internally and externally to ensure that the processes in place to prevent and respond to sexual assault across the State of Montana are working effectively and efficiently.

**Therefore, let it be resolved that:** the Associated Students of Montana State University express their support for the creation and passage of an Interim Study Bill during the 2015 Montana Legislative Session regarding how institutions in the state of Montana including but not limited to the Montana University System respond to Sexual Assault.

**Let it be further resolved that:** a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Waded Cruzado, Montana State University President; Governor Steve Bullock, State of Montana; Senator Debby Barrett, President, Montana State Senate; Senator Diane Sands, Montana State Senate; Matthew Caires, Dean of Students; Destini French, ASMSU President; Garrett Lankford, ASMSU Lobbyist; Justin Ailport, ASMSU Local Government Liason; Alana Sherstad, The Voice Center; Marci Torres, MSU Health Advancement, Gail Schontzler, Bozeman Daily Chronicle; Erin Murdock, MSU Exponent.